#### UNITED STATE DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001 03-md-1570 (GBD)(SN) ECF Case

This document relates to:

Burnett, et al, v. The Islamic Republic of Iran, et al., No. 15-cv-9903 (GBD)(SN)

#### DECLARATION OF DOREEN NOONE WHEELER

I, DOREEN NOONE WHEELER, hereby declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 1. I am 48 years old and reside in Manorville, New York.
- 2. I was the fiancé of Kevin M. Prior who was killed in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York. Kevin was a firefighter with the Fire Department of New York and died when the North Tower collapsed as he was ascending the stairway in response to a mayday call.
- 3. At the time of his death on September 11, 2001, I was 29 years old and had been engaged to Kevin for four months. Kevin and I first met each other sometime in 1996 and began dating each other exclusively approximately one year after that in 1997.
- 4. As our relationship developed, Kevin and I also developed close relationships with each other parents and other immediate family members. We enjoyed travelling together and often vacationed with one family or the other as a family group. Holidays were always spent with one family or the other, often both.
- 5. Sometime in 2000, Kevin and I began living together and planning our future life together which included buying a home and raising a family. Those plans included Kevin providing financial support to me as I returned to school to become a teacher. During this time, I was dependent on Kevin financially. In May of 2001, I was awarded my bachelor's degree. During the last week in August, 2001, a mere weeks before he died on 9/11, Kevin helped me set up my first classroom for my first teaching job.

- 6. On May 12, 2001, on the four-year anniversary of our fist date, Kevin took me back to the site of that date, Gilgo Beach on Long Island, got down on one knee as the sun was setting, presented me with a diamond engagement ring and asked me to marry him. I immediately accepted. See Exhibit A, attached hereto.
- 7. We scheduled our wedding to take place on July 12, 2002 at St. Killian Church in Farmingdale, New York, with a reception to follow at the Crescent Beach Club in Bayville, New York. We also engaged the services of a professional photographer/videographer to capture our special day forever. See Exhibits C, D and E, attached hereto.
- 8. Shortly after our engagement, we went on a month-long vacation together to Ireland where we both had extended family. During that trip, we took the opportunity to introduce each other to our respective extended families and to personally invite them all to our wedding. I will always treasure my memory of that trip because it turned out to be the honeymoon Kevin and I never had.
- 9. Approximately one month before he died on September 11, 2001, Kevin suggested we go to a local courthouse to become legally married before our actual wedding ceremony the next year, so that he could include me as his spouse on his employer-provided health insurance plan as I had no health insurance at the time. I told him I wanted to wait for our special day, and have regretted that decision ever since the events of 9/11.
- 10. On September 8, 2001, just three days before he died on 9/11, Kevin added me to his MBNA Visa account. See Exhibit B, attached hereto.
- 11. On June 17, 2002, the New York State Senate passed legislation that made certain domestic partners of certain firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty on September 11, 2001 eligible for special accidental death benefits, among other benefits. The legislation applied to the registered and unregistered domestic partner of specific New York City firefighters, including Kevin Prior. Accordingly, the legislation was deemed to apply to me as the domestic partner of Kevin and I was awarded the special accidental death (pension) benefit provided by that legislation for life. See Attachment F, attached hereto.
- 12. In a letter dated November 12, 2002, I was notified by the Commissioner of the Department of Taxation and Finance for the State of New York, that as the domestic partner of

Kevin Prior, I was awarded a sum certain from the New York State World Trade Center Relief Fund. See Exhibit G, attached hereto.

13. The events of September 11, 2001 forever altered my life and created a void that will never be filled.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: 3/24/21

Joseph Moone Wheeler Doreen Noone Wheeler

## with photograph

# Gennaro Jewelers

410 Bedford Avenue, Bellmore, New York 11710 Phone: (516) 785-0134 • Fax: (516) 785-5466 Honest, Reputable Jewelers Since 1923

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: I have this day examined the jewelry items described below, the property of:

oreen

approximate unless otherwise indicated.

Noone

Nº 3524

Address		810			NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.
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Major inclusions shown for consumer identification	MAJOI	R STONE IDENTIFI	CATION		* ]
purposes only.  SHAPE					
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ST. KILIAN PARISH

FARMINGDALE, NEW YORK, 11735-2651

Present of Find of June god Manage license & bring this and congratulations!

You are to be married here at St. Kilian Church. A Music @ loos 3 morths about

My name is Paul Phinney and I am Director of Music at St. Kilian. It is my responsibility to provide appropriate music selections as you receive the sactament of marriage, whether it be a mass or ceremony.

The following is a brief explanation of when music will occur at each:

#### NUPTIAL MASS:

Preludes (before liturgy begins)
Processional (entrance)
Responsorial Psalm
Gospel Acclamation
Exchange of Vows or Candle Lighting
Presentation of Gifts
Communion
Recessional

#### MARRIAGE CEREMONY:

Preludes (before liturgy begins)
Processional (entrance)
Responsorial Psalm
Gospel Acclamation
Exchange of Vows or Candle Lighting
Recessional

There is a wide variety of music which encompasses traditional and modern composers. To assist you in selecting the music for your wedding, I ask that you call me three months prior to your wedding date in order that we may meet for the purpose of selecting music for tour special day.

My office phone number is (516) 420-0950. I am available days and evenings. Please leave your name, phone number and a time I can definitely reach you on my answering machine if I am not in the office when you call. I will return your call at the time your indicate.

Please bring this letter with you to our meeting. The opposite side is your Wedding Music Work Sheet. I look forward to meeting with you

Sincerely,

Paul C. Phinney Director of Music Case 1:03-md-01570-GBD-SN Document 8012-15 Filed 05/12/22 Page 6 of 13 BIT C



Restaurant/Banquets

Bayville Avenue/Bayville, New York 11709/516-628-3000

May 25, 2001

Ms Doreen Noon Mr Kevin Prior

Dear Doreen and Kevin:

Thank you for selecting The Crescent Beach Club to host your Wedding Ceremony and Reception on Friday, July 12, 2002 from 6:30 pm to 12:00 am.

Please find enclosed a copy of your contract and proposed menu. Kindly remit the "deposit due" as stated within your contract.

I am sure you will be impressed with the professionalism and dedication to detail that our staff provides in the planning of your special day.

I will contact you in the future to discuss the details. In the interim, please do not he situte to call me at 628-3000 with any questions.

Sincerely,

Art MacMillan

Banquet Manager

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EXHIBIT

MBNA

ww.mbnanetaccess.com

DOREEN P NOONE

To:

From:

Doreen P Noone Leigh Fellman, Customer Satisfaction department

Date:

June 26, 2003

Subject:

Account inquiry

Account No .:

We recently received an inquiry regarding the above referenced account.

Our records indicate that the above referenced account was established in the name of Kevin M. Prior. On September 8, 2001, we received a request to add Doreen P. Noone to the account as a co-applicant. On October 28, 2001, we processed a request to place the account in the name of Doreen P. Noone, removing Kevin M. Prior's name from the account.

If you have any questions, please call 1-800-626-2556, or from overseas, collect to (302) 738-5719. We are at your service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### STATE OF NEW YORK

7716

#### IN SENATE

June 17, 2002

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to make certain domestic partners, parents, and widows and children of certain firefighters dying at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 eligible for special accidental death benefits pursuant to section 208-f of the general municipal law (PART A); and to make certain domestic partners of certain firefighters dying at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 eligible for health benefits and to make the surviving siblings of certain firefighters so dying eligible for certain pension benefits (PART B)

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-

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re Info: 1) Chap 468 of 2002 5) Voting Info.

#### BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. This act enacts into law major components of legislation L which are necessary to redress the catastrophic effects of terrorist 2 attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 on the survivors 3 of certain New York City firefighters. Each component is contained within a part identified as parts A and B. The effective late 5 for each particular provision contained within such part is set forth in 6 the last section of such part. Any provision in any section contained within a part, including the effective date of the part, В reference to a section "of this act", when used in connection with that 9 particular component, shall be deemed to mean and refer to 70 sponding section of the part in which it is found. Section three of this 11 act sets forth the general effective date of this act. 75

L3 PART A

L4 Section L. a. The legislature finds and determines that Laurence
L5 Virgilio, James Pappageorge, Jay Ogren, Sergio Villanueva, John Chipura,
L6 Kevin Donnelly, Keith Glascoe, Martin McWilliams, Dennis Mojica, Thomas

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## RULES ase 1:03-md-01570-GBD-SN Document 8012-15 Filed 05/12/22 Page 11 of 13 are Info: 1) Chap 468 of 2002 5) Voting Info:

A. Casoria, Paul Gill, Kevin Prior, Dara Hannon, Scott Kopytko, Jeffrey

Stark, and Mike Ragusa were employed as firefighters by the fire depart
ment of the city of New York and were killed in the course of such

employment at the World Trade Center of Saptember 11, 2001. Notwith
EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets

{ } is old law to be chitted.

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#### PAGE-2

standing any provision of any general, special, or local law to 1 contrary, the provisions of section 208-f of the general municipal law 2 shall be deemed to apply to the registered and unregistered domestic 3 partners of Lawrence Virgilio, James Pappageorge, Jay Ogren, Sergio Villanueva, John Chipura, Kevin Donnelly, Keith Glascoe, Martin McWil-5 iams, Dennis Mojica, Thomas A. Casoria, Paul Gill, Kevin Prior, Dana Ь Hannon, Scott Kopytko, Jeffrey Stark, and Mike Ragusa, and such domestic partners shall be eligible for the special accidental death benefit by such section upon the same terms and conditions as other 9 provided

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- 10 persons eligible to receive benefits pursuant to such section. The bene-
- ll fits provided by this section shall be payable from the general fund in
- 12 monthly installments.
- 13 b. For the purposes of this section, "domestic partner" shall mean a
- 14 person at least eighteen years of age who:
- 15 (i) was dependent upon the firefighter for support as shown by either
- 16 unilateral dependence or mutual interdependence, as evidenced by a nexus
- 17 of factors including, but not limited to, children in common, comme-
- 18 ownership of real or personal property, signs of intent to marry, com-
- 19 householding, shared budgeting, and the length of the personal relation-
- 20 ship with the firefighter; or
- 21 (ii) was registered as the domestic partner of the firefighter
- 22 any employer or with any registry of domestic partnerships maintained a
- 23 the state or by any county, city, town, or village prior to the first
- 24 fighter's death.
- 25 (iii) For the purposes of this section, the definition of defeat.
- 26 partner made by this subdivision shall supplement or supersace as

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STATE OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION AND FINANCE

W. A. HARRIMAN CAMPUS ALBANY, NY 12227

ARTHUR J. ROTH COMMISSIONER November 12, 2002

Ms. Doreen Noone

Dear Ms. Noone:

Due to the continued generosity of our fellow New Yorkers, as well as people from across the country and around the world, we have been able to expand the number of recipients eligible for awards from the New York State World Trade Center Relief Fund to include domestic partners of at least six months and francees.

As someone who qualifies under these expanded guidelines, you are receiving an award of from the fund to help you with your financial needs.

The Word Trade Center Relief Fund is being administered by the New York State Department Taxation and Finance. If you have any questions about your award, please contact us toll-free 1-866-244-3839.

Very truly yours

Arthur J. Roth Commissioner